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JOHN S. TARKINGTON, Manager.

A BURST OF ANIMATION

IT CLOSED THE DAY'S TRADING IN WALL-STREET

Market Was Strong All Day, with Considerable Investment Buying—Firm Tone in Local Trading.

At New York yesterday money on call was steady at 4 1/2 per cent, last loan at 4 1/2 per cent.

Prime mercantile paper, 6 per cent.

Sterling exchange was firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at \$47.64 1/2 for demand and \$48.04 1/2 for sixty days; commercial bills, \$48.04 1/2.

Silver certificates were 50 1/2 per cent; bar silver was 50 1/2 per cent; Mexican dollars were 47 1/2 per cent.

The New York securities market showed the effect of the great relief felt by the dissipation of several factors of apprehension, and prices mounted upward with a burst of animation and strength at the top level of the day. Net gains in a number of important railroads reached 3 points, with a long list of advances of a point or better.

Among the industrials and specialties gains were even more striking, quite a number having advanced from 4 to 10 points as a result of the day's trading.

Demand from an outstanding short interest to cover accentuated the strength of the latter group, those which have recently suffered most showing the greatest benefit from the day's business. Brooklyn Transit was almost a solitary exception, and was subject to vigorous attacks all day in an effort to unsettle the market and check the advance. But this stock, although it ranged over more than 4 points, closed with a net loss of only a point. The leading influence in the improvement of sentiment was the quiet and orderly manner in which the periodical settlement on the London Stock Exchange proceeded. Since the last settlement on that exchange Great Britain has suffered no serious financial conditions of invasion have been paralyzed, and as a result alarm spread through the financial center of the world. Great fears were felt that the resulting shrinkage in values would prevent many operators on the London exchange from meeting their engagements at the current settlement. The news yesterday morning that no acute difficulties had developed, that money conditions were easy and prices inclined to advance rather than to decline, brought immediate relief, which was promptly reflected all along the line. The only notable check came with the news of the failure of a Boston exchange house, but this influence was only temporary and was soon offset by conditions in the money market were notably easy, and one of the largest individual lenders in the street made large loans to carry over until Tuesday at the rate of 6 1/2 per cent. The current rate ruled from 4 to 5 per cent. The close of the year is unusually early, and it is probable that the period of severe stringency and to be followed by relaxation owing to disbursements of dividends and interest, which will be on an unprecedented scale. There was some discussion of the probable amount of gold exports on Saturday. These are not now expected to be large, owing to the conditions on the London market. The buying to save short contracts, although it was a considerable element of the advance, was itself induced by the very substantial character of the buying for long account and the manifestly small supply of floating stocks. The trading did not take any great animation until near the close, and the individual transactions were not on a large scale. In fact, the number of odd lot trades in water features of the day and reflected the investment demand by buyers who take stock out of the market to lock up and keep.

The governing committee of the New York Stock Exchange refused to grant the petition of the members to close the exchange Saturday, Dec. 30.

Investment buying was also in evidence in the bond market wherever the fall in prices had offered opportunity to secure fair return on money invested. The bond market was active and strong throughout. Total sales at par value were \$2,300,000. United States new four per cent bonds in the bid price.

Following are the day's share sales and the closing bid prices:

Stocks.

Atchafalpa, 10 1/2.

Baltimore & Ohio, 33 1/2.

Canada Pacific, 40 1/2.

Canada Southern, 40 1/2.

Chicago & North Western, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Western Indiana, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Eastern Illinois, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Great Lakes, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Lake Michigan, 100 1/2.

Chicago & St. Louis, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Illinois, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Rock Island, 100 1/2.

Chicago & St. Paul, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Milwaukee, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Wisconsin, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Minnesota, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Iowa, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Missouri, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Arkansas, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Louisiana, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Texas, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Florida, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Alabama, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Georgia, 100 1/2.

Chicago & South Carolina, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Mississippi, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Tennessee, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Kentucky, 100 1/2.

Chicago & West Virginia, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Maryland, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Delaware, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Pennsylvania, 100 1/2.

Chicago & New Jersey, 100 1/2.

Chicago & New York, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Connecticut, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Rhode Island, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Massachusetts, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Vermont, 100 1/2.

Chicago & New Hampshire, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Maine, 100 1/2.

Chicago & New Brunswick, 100 1/2.

Chicago & Nova Scotia, 100 1/2.

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